# THE CITY OF DEXTER REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY, August 10, 2015

# A. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Mayor Keough at the Dexter Senior Center located at 7720 Ann Arbor Street in Dexter, Michigan.

B. ROLL CALL: Mayor Keough J. Carson D. Fisher
J. Knight J. Semifero

J. Smith R. Tell

Also present: Courtney Nicholls, City Manager; Michelle Aniol, Community Development Manager; Marie Sherry, Finance Director/Treasurer; Dan Schlaff, Public Services Superintendent; Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager; residents and media.

### C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. Regular City Council Meeting – July 27, 2015

Motion Tell; support Smith to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of July 27, 2015.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

# D. PREARRANGED PARTICIPATION

Jennifer Olmstead, SPARK

Mrs. Olmstead came to Council to provide their 2015 economic development update. She provided a hand-out related to SPARK activities. SPARK conducts economic development activities on behalf of the Ann Arbor region. Their goal is to help attract, grow, and expand businesses in the area. She reported that SPARK has had 16 successes in the last year, equating to \$79 million in investment. She made Council aware of National Manufacturing Day on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, and provided an update that addressed Dexter businesses.

Question - Can anyone access the job seeker portal? (Yes.)

Question - How do you gauge in what investments you play a role? (We only count those things where SPARK played a direct role, such as application development and job postings.)

Question - Does that count outflow? (No.)

Question - Does MC3 count? (Yes.)

# E. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion Smith; support Carson to approve the agenda with the following changes:

- The addition of New Business item L-4 Ian Bell's Eagle Scout Project.
- The addition of Consideration of Variety Die IFT after the public hearing.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

## F. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mayor Keough opened the Public Hearing at 7:41 PM.

Michelle Aniol, Community Development Manager, provided background for Variety Die's Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate Request at 2221 Bishop Circle East. The exemption would be 50% abatement of taxes on approximately \$703,000 in real property improvements at its facility. This is the fourth time that Variety Die has expanded since the building was constructed in 1990. The application is for a six-year abatement, and Variety Die will also be adding eight new full-time employees.

Jonathan Woods of Variety Die and Stamping provided information regarding his business. Variety Die will be adding muffler manufacturing and assembly space. They will begin shipping to China next year.

Mayor Keough closed the Public Hearing at 7:46 PM.

Consideration of: Variety Die and Stamping Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate

Motion Fisher; support Carson to approve the request from Variety Die and Stamping for an industrial facilities exemption certificate for real investments located at 2221 Bishop Circle East, Dexter, MI as presented.

Ayes: Carson, Knight, Semifero, Fisher, Smith, Tell, and Keough Nays: None Motion carries

#### G. NON-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION

Paul Cousins of 7648 Forest - Mr. Cousins spoke about the extension of the Border-to-Border Trail at Central Street. He suggested that the City needs to push harder to complete the project. He spoke about First Street Park a.k.a Horseshoe Park and a proposed shelter on the site. He stated that the horseshoe club cleaned-up the park, installed picnic tables and grills, and turned it into a park. He provided background on a proposed shelter.

Mayor Keough commented that Council would discuss this matter under the Community Development Manager's presentation.

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Question - Where was it originally designed to be placed? (Mr. Cousins pointed out the location). Mr. Cousins commented that the Club has volunteered to install and paint the shelter.

Question - Is the Edison extension used for parking? (Near the tree line, along Edison St., and near the DTE substation are all used for parking.)

## H. COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1. Upcoming Meeting List
- 2. Sign Calendar

Council Member Smith noted that the Dexter Area Historical Society meeting was moved to Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. He also noted that the Facility Committee meeting was moved to Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>.

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Council Member Fisher commented that it would be nice if someone from the Historical Society would let staff know that meetings have been changed.

### I. REPORTS

1. Public Services Superintendent – Dan Schlaff

Mr. Schlaff submits his report as per packet. Mr. Schlaff gave the following updates:

- Question How were our sewers (this afternoon)? (We received 1.5" of water in 20 minutes. We had some wash-out. It was a lot of rain in a short period of time.)
- Council Member Carson commented that staff has been diligent in fixing roads when they can. They are using the new equipment well. Council Member Fisher concurred.
- The Wastewater Treatment Plant had a blower fail. Blowers are used for aeration. Mr. Schlaff called Hoffman Bower and they no longer manufacture the same part. Other parts may provide energy savings and can tie into the SCADA controls.
- Question When were they installed? (1999. The life expectancy is 20 years.)
- Question How are the other blowers? (We are not able to take them off-line to examine them.)
- Question What is the cost of replacement? (It could be as high as \$50,000.)
- Question How soon would it provide cost recovery? (It will be covered in the report at a later date.)
- 3. Community Development Manager Michelle Aniol

Ms. Aniol submits her report as per packet. Ms. Aniol gave the following updates:

• There will be a Business Summit on Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30am at Utilities Instrumentation Service, 2290 Bishop Circle East. The event will provide opportunities to network and remind local businesses that the City has an Economic Development Corporation to help with major expansions. There are several companies that may be looking to expand.

- The Beer Grotto has submitted an application for outdoor seating.
- Hotel Hickman is planning an expansion of its outdoor seating through an open pavilion.
- Question Are they [Hotel Hickman] in possession of the Flower Shop? (Not yet.)
- Question We own the building [Hotel Hickman], do we also own the property between the buildings? (Does not think so, likely owned by the flower shop).
- The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund is scheduled to visit on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Dairy Queen will be providing treats to the MNRTF Board.
- Question What is next for the Target Market Analysis? (Michelle summarized the next steps and methodology.)
- Question When will the final report be complete? (The Final Report may be done by the end of August, but Council may provide comments at any point.)
- Council Member Fisher noted that she would like to see an optional workshop.
- Michelle presented options for the shelter at First Street Park. Discussion followed.
- 4. Boards, Commissions. & Other Reports-"Bi-annual or as needed"

Western Washtenaw Area Value Express Representative – Jim Carson

- Mr. Carson noted that the RIDE is looking to expand the urban core to Scio Township, which would have implications for Dexter.
- The Scio Township Board has voted to place a public transit millage on the ballot. This could cause the Wagner route to move to Meijer at Jackson Rd. and AATA would contract with WAVE.

# Roads Committee – Joe Semifero

- The Roads Committee met before the City Council meeting to discuss the status of various projects. Kurt and Dan will need to talk to Patrick Droze of OHM to follow-up on when Cadillac will begin work.
- Question Council Member Semifero asked Council whether the City want to put out a bid for structures [manhole covers]? He noted that Cadillac has been quoted as the highest cost on a per structure basis and that the bid return would need to be quick. It was noted that the timing would not work because Cadillac has been asked to begin work as soon as possible.
- Council Member Semifero noted that the City should have work performed to get PASER ratings on the City's roads. Discussion regarding the timing of such a project followed.

# 5. Subcommittee Reports

None

# 6. City Manager Report

Ms. Nicholls submits her report as per packet. Ms. Nicholls gave the following updates:

- The City has a contractor ready to perform the work on the Border-to-Border
  Trail at Central. She noted that the contractor is not able to perform any work
  without AMTRAK approval. Plans were re-submitted to AMTRAK two
  weeks ago after receiving comments on the first submission.
- A&W has submitted a request to be annexed into the City. Their request is based on issues with their septic system.
- Question Does the City have criteria for annexing properties? (It is taken on a case-by-case basis, but those criteria should be established at some point.)
- Question Will we have something from Scio Township stating that they
  approve of the annexation? (To have an island annexed, the Township and the
  City must agree to terms.)

# 7. Mayor's Report

Mr. Keough submits his report as per packet. Mr. Keough gave the following updates:

• The DDA did not meet due to a lack of quorum.

Motion Fisher; support Carson to move New Business item L-4 before item L-1

Unanimous voice vote approval.

# J. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consideration of: Bills and Payroll in the amount of \$181,421.36

Motion Fisher; support Smith to approve item 1 of the Consent Agenda.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

# K. OLD BUSINESS-Consideration and Discussion of:

None

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# L. NEW BUSINESS-Consideration of and Discussion of:

4. Consideration of: Ian Bell's Eagle Scout Project

Motion Fisher; support Smith to approve Ian Bell's Eagle Scout project as presented, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000, for the construction of stairs, and bird and bat houses, with the locations of the animal houses to be determined at a later date.

Ayes: Carson, Knight, Semifero, Fisher, Smith, Tell, and Keough

Nays: None Motion carries

1. Consideration of: Telephone System Upgrade

Motion Fisher; support Smith to award the telephone system upgrade contract to Comcast for the City Office, Department of Public Works, and Wastewater Treatment Plant in an amount not to exceed \$45,000 over the life of the 3-year contract.

Ayes: Semifero, Fisher, Smith, Carson, and Keough

Nays: Tell, and Knight Motion carries 5-2

2. Consideration of: Award of Quote from UIS to Perform SCADA Upgrade

Motion Semifero; support Fisher to approve the quote from UIS for an amount not to exceed \$19,000.

Ayes: Fisher, Smith, Tell, Carson, Knight, Semifero, and Keough

Nays: None Motion carries

3. Consideration of: Resolution of Support for Washtenaw county Road Millage

Motion Carson; support Smith to approve the resolution as presented with the additions of "as shown" to the end of the sixth paragraph and attaching the list of roadways that the City intends to provide as 2016 projects.

Ayes: Smith, Tell, Carson, Fisher, Knight, Semifero, and Keough

Nays: None Motion carries Deleted: 0

# M. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Tell None Fisher None

Semifero Would like to be a fly on the wall when Ray complains about the list of

streets from the County Road Millage resolution. He noted that millennials are buying homes at the same rate as previous generations. It is a myth that millennials do not want to buy homes. He also noted that he was serious about Council giving consideration to purchasing the building on Grand Street. He would like the Facilities Committee to evaluate that building or a building of a similar type. Council Member Smith noted that

there is already an option on the Grand building. Michielle Aniol commented that no offers have been accepted on the building

Breyer Apologized for missing Council Members during votes.

Smith None Knight None Carson None Keough None

# N. NON-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION

None

# P. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Smith; support Carson to adjourn at 9:52 PM.

Ayes: Smith, Tell, Carson, Fisher, Knight, and Keough

Nays: Semifero Motion carries 6-1

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Breyer

Assistant to the City Manager, City of Dexter Approved for Filing: